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For: FIRE DETECTION METHOD

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified patent application prior to examination:

In the Claims

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein sampling is effected continuously.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein sampling is effected at predetermined time intervals.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the ion mobility spectrometer is connected to an alarm system.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein the alarm is triggered when a feature characteristic of thermal degradation is detected.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the ion mobility spectrometer is set to detect volatile material released from an electrical component.